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Nucleic Acid Sequence Amplification

Abstract

5 A method, composition and kit for synthesizing  
multiple copies of a target nucleic acid sequence auto-  
catalytically under conditions of substantially constant  
10 temperature, ionic strength, and pH are provided in which  
multiple RNA copies of the target sequence autocatalytic-  
ally generate additional copies using a mixture of blocked  
and unblocked primers and/or promoter-primers to initiate  
15 DNA and RNA synthesis, preferably with reduced non-specific  
product formation. The invention is useful for generating  
copies of a nucleic acid target sequence for purposes that  
include assays to quantitate specific nucleic acid  
sequences in clinical, environmental, forensic and similar  
samples, cloning and generating probes.